



BORRIS L. MILES

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: CRIMINAL JUSTICE • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • HIGHER EDUCATION • NOMINATIONS

November 30, 2022

Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee
PO Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Senator Kolkhorst:

It is with great regret and greater concern that I am unable to sign onto the Health and Human Services Interim Report to the 88th Legislature because of the recommendations made for the COVID-19 Pandemic Response interim charge.

I cannot endorse recommendations to ban mask mandates, ban COVID vaccine mandates or to provide state money for a grant program to research "...adverse events of the COVID vaccines directly associated with vaccine use." The ban on mandates limits the ability of local governments, schools, hospitals and businesses to protect the public. Researching only the rare adverse events from COVID vaccines would use state dollars to conduct research with predetermined conclusions.

Make no mistake, COVID vaccines are safe and effective. More than 300 million doses of the Pfizer and 200 million doses of the Moderna vaccine have been administered with tremendous amounts of data showing their safety and effectiveness. I represent the Texas Medical Center (TMC) and the vaccine mandates made by the hospitals in the TMC were important for protecting both the staff at the facilities as well as their patients. I support the ability of hospitals, schools and businesses to protect the health of their employees, patients, students and customers.

It's time to stop pandering to the anti-vaccination conspiracy theories and political platforms that has caused the deaths of many people in this state, this country and the world. Our charge on the HHS Committee is to better the health and well-being of Texans, but this report will not lead to improvements in public health in this state.

Keep the Faith, Keep the Fight,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Borris L. Miles".

Borris L. Miles
Senator, District 13

CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. Box 12068
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
(512) 463-0113
FAX: (512) 463-0006
DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS

CENTRAL HOUSTON OFFICE:
5302 ALMEDA ROAD, SUITE A
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004
(713) 665-8322
FAX: (713) 665-0009

NORTHEAST OFFICE:
3300 LYONS AVENUE, SUITE 301
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77020
(713) 223-0387
FAX: (713) 223-0524

FORT BEND OFFICE:
2440 TEXAS PARKWAY, SUITE 110
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS 77489
(281) 261-2360
FAX: (281) 261-4726